



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

## BOARD OF FINANCE

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS  
Chairman

**REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008**

RICHARD J. CLEARY  
MARK A. JOYSE  
BARRY C. PINTO  
MICHAEL D. VARNEY  
JOSEPH E. WEHR

**Members Present:** Richard Cleary, Mark Joyse, Barry Pinto, Joseph Wehr

**Members Absent:** Robert Clements, Michael Varney

**Others Present:** N. DiCorleto-Finance Officer, John Turner-Selectman

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED TO APPOINT RICHARD CLEARY AS TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN FOR TONIGHT'S MEETING.**

### 1. Call to Order

Acting Chairman Richard Cleary called the August 19, 2008 meeting of the Board of Finance to order at 8:10 pm.

### 2. Citizen's Forum

Mr. Turner passed out the six month report from the Ellington Emergency Services Ad Hoc Committee. He pointed out that since this report was completed, the membership change is that Levandoski has replaced Gambacorta. He stated that they have a meeting scheduled for next week and there will be more committees formed to take care of outstanding items.

Regarding the contracts, they are working with the Town Attorney and his goal as chairman is to have these items resolved by the end of the year. He told the Board that the committee as it is formed now is working toward a common goal. He feels that they all know where the town is coming from on the issue of unity of emergency services in Ellington. It can be a long and difficult process sometimes, but he is hoping that through his leadership, there will be progress made.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

**MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (JOYSE) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING OF MARCH 4, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING OF MARCH 19, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (PINTO) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING OF MARCH 20, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 25, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF APRIL 8, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET DELIBERATION AND SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 22, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (WEHR) SECONDED (JOYSE) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BUDGET DELIBERATIONS OF APRIL 24, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (JOYSE) AND PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING TO SET THE MILL RATE OF MAY 22, 2008 AS WRITTEN.**

#### **4. Financial Statements**

##### **Tax Collector Suspense Report**

The Tax Collector is recommending that \$22,273.86 be moved into suspense status per CGS 12-165. Mr. DiCorleto told the Board that Ann Marie still tries to collect these funds if the people are found.

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (PINTO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO TRANSFER FROM THE 2004 GRAND LIST \$22,273.86 TO SUSPENSE PER CGS 12-165 AS DETAILED IN THE MEMO FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR DATED JUNE 24, 2008.**

The Finance Officer informed the Board that the bids for the Ambulance Bldg addition are due back on September 8. The Tax Collector's rate of collection is 99% which is very good. He also stated that the on-line payment service has been very popular and the combining of vehicles onto single statements has been accepted by the public as well.

#### **5. Additional Appropriations/Recommendation to Town Meeting**

##### **Center Fire Dept. Sale Proceeds**

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (PINTO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$18,722 FROM UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE TO THE ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT FOR 08-09 FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF THE 1970 BROCKWAY TRUCK AND HOSES AND FITTINGS.**

Hockanum Valley Community Council

HVCC is requesting an additional \$5,000 from the Town of Ellington to cover the increase in gas prices that occurred after the 2008-09 budget was compiled. This request was approved by the Board of Selectmen on June 16, 2008.

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROPRIATE AND EXPEND AN ADDITIONAL \$5,000 TO THE 2008-09 HOCKANUM VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACCOUNT FROM UNDESIGNATED GENERAL FUND BALANCE TO COVER THE COST OF FUEL ADJUSTMENTS.**

Land Purchase

The Board of Selectmen approved a resolution to bond \$2,000,000 for potential land purchases and to include it on the ballot in November. The resolution is worded such that it is for municipal as well as open space land purchases. The new Town Charter states that land purchases over \$1,000,000 will have to go back to referendum. If this resolution is approved in November, any expenditure from this has to go either to town meeting or referendum depending on the purchase price. All purchases will come to the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance prior to that. The Farm Preservation bonding that was approved last year is a separate funding item.

Mr. Joyse stated that he did not feel comfortable that the Town administration would use the funds for any open space. He stated that he is not in favor of this resolution without specific amounts for each type of property purchases.

Mr. Cleary stated that he felt this gives the town flexibility in what can be purchased and is the best compromise for dealing with land purchases. At least in this case, if the Conservation Commission finds land that they would like to purchase, there is some resource to go to. Mr. Pinto agreed with Mr. Cleary.

Mr. Wehr felt uneasy that the funds were not specifically designated.

Mr. DiCorleto stated that Jim Gage was at the Board of Selectmen's meeting and stated no objection to this resolution. He also stated that if the town factions continued to work against each other, the resolution may not pass and then the town is left with nothing.

**MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (CLEARY) AND PASSED RESOLVED, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town of Ellington appropriate \$2,000,000 for costs related to the acquisition by the Town of one or more parcels of land, or of easements or other interests or rights related thereto, for municipal purposes and open space, including without limitation use as a school site; provided that no portion of the appropriation shall be expended for the acquisition of a particular parcel of land, or of easements or other interests or rights related thereto, other than for costs preliminary to such acquisition, until: (1) such acquisition has been submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission of the Town for review**

pursuant to Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, Revision of 1958, as amended, and (2) upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, such acquisition has been approved by the Town Meeting or referendum. The appropriation may be spent for acquisition costs, costs preliminary thereto including without limitation survey fees, testing, engineering, feasibility and planning studies related to potential acquisitions, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project and its financing.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Finance recommends that the Town issue bonds, notes or other obligations and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 to finance the appropriation. The amount of bonds, notes or other obligations authorized to be issued shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the Town for the project to the extent that such grants are not separately appropriated to pay additional project costs.

**Vote:** Ayes – Cleary, Pinto  
Nays – Joyse  
Abstain - Wehr

## **6. New Business**

### **Pinney House Project**

Mr. DiCorleto told the Board that the Pinney House Committee came up with enough items to be done by volunteers and donations to come in within the \$500,000 grant; and therefore, they do not have to come back for an additional appropriation. This money will cover getting the building into a stable condition.

## **7. Old Business**

None

## **8. Adjournment**

**MOVED (JOYSE) SECONDED (WEHR) AND PASSED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:06 PM.**

Submitted by   
Lori Smith, Clerk